

At the meeting of the Public Service Commission of the State of Montana held at the Commission's Offices in Helena, Montana, on Thursday, May 29, 2003, the following members were present:

Bob Rowe, Chairman
Thomas J. Schneider, Vice Chairman
Matt Brainard, Commissioner
Greg Jergeson, Commissioner
Jay Stovall, Commissioner

APPEARANCE

Kate Whitney, Administrator
Utility Division

(204) In the matter of Sprint Communications Company LP, Docket No. N2003.5.60; On May 13, 2003, Sprint Communications Company filed Price List No. 1, Revision 192. The purpose of the filing is to make miscellaneous text changes to Casual Caller and to increase Casual Caller rate. Sprint is requesting a May 23, 2003 effective date. Commissioner Stovall moved to approve text changes to the tariffs. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

(205) In the matter of Qwest Communications, Docket No. N2003.5.59; On May 13, 2003 Qwest filed tariff transmittal 03-11 Business Product Save Offer Promotion. During the 90 day promotional period from June 16, 2003, through September 13, 2003, business customers who request to have one or more products listed below disconnected, and after having been informed of the products benefits, may be offered a 50 percent discount on the monthly recurring charge(s) for the next two months in the form of a credit(s) to their next two bills if they agree to retain the products. Products participating in the promotion include: flat business lines, Qwest Business Line Plus, Business CustomChoice, Centrex 21, Hunting Service, Call Forwarding-Busy Line/Don't Answer, and Market Expansion Line. Commissioner Jergeson moved to approve the promotion. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4 to 1. Commissioners Jergeson, Rowe, Schneider and Stovall voted aye. Commissioner Brainard dissented.

(206) In the matter of Citizens Telecommunications, Docket No. N2003.5.61; On May 13, 2003, Citizens filed three special promotional offerings for customers ordering between June 15, 2003, and August 31, 2003 inclusive. The first offering is Custom Calling Service promotion, business customers who order a custom calling feature will receive waiver of the applicable nonrecurring installation or activation charge. The second offering is Additional Line Promotion, customers who order three or fewer additional access lines will receive a waiver of the applicable nonrecurring installation or activation charge. The third offering is Frontier Feature5 Pack promotion, business customers who order the Frontier Feature5 pack on their existing or additional lines will; a) receive waiver of the nonrecurring installation or activation charge ; b) a \$6.00 credit that is applicable on the customer's first, second and third month's bill for the Frontier Feature5 Pack Package c) a \$6.00 credit that is applicable on the first, second and third month's bill per line for the Optional Frontier Feature5 Pack Basic Voice Mail. These promotions are offered only where technically available. Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the promotion. Commissioner Jergeson seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Wayne Budt, Administrator (presented by Kate Whitney)
Transportation & Centralized Services Division

(207) In the matter of the approval of Commission Minutes; Commissioner Brainard moved to approve the Commission Minutes for the week of May 19, 2003. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson

(208) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of NorthWestern Energy's 2003-2004 Gas Tracker, Docket No. D2003.6.66; Commissioner Schneider moved to issue an interim protective order. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Monica Tranel

(209) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Qwest Corporation and WaveSent LLC Application for Approval of Interconnection Agreement, Docket No. D2003.2.15; Commissioner Stovall moved to approve the interconnection agreement between WaveSent and Qwest. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Monica Tranel, Kate Whitney

(210) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Rulemaking for the 2003 Telecommunications Legislation; Commissioner Schneider moved to issue a notice of repeal of interim universal access rules. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4 to 0. Commissioner Jergeson stepped away from the meeting and the vote was left open for him. He later cast his vote aye, making the vote unanimous.

Commissioner Brainard moved to publish the notice of proposed rulemaking regarding HBs 479 and 562. Commissioner Schneider seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Mike Lee

(211) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Blackfoot Telephone Cooperative's Petition for Extended Area Service for Multiple Exchanges, Docket No. D2003.1.8; Commissioner Brainard moved to issue a notice stating that the preliminary community of interest phase (Phase I) has been met, and including a comment period for community of interest and cost analysis/rate design. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh

(212) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of NorthWestern Energy's ECCGP-1 Tariff (Electric Customer Choice Guidelines and Procedures), Docket No. N2003.5.65; Commissioner Schneider moved to direct NorthWestern Energy to file proposed tariffs to be consistent with HB 509 in time to be effective July 1, 2003. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Martin Jacobson, Dave Burchett

(213) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of Energy West Montana's General Gas Rate Case, Docket No. D2002.9.120; Commissioner Schneider moved to approve the final order subject to nonsubstantive edits. Commissioner Brainard seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

APPEARANCE

Robin McHugh

(214) In the matter of the Commission's discussion of the Montana Supreme Court's Rules on Pro Hac Vice Admission; Commissioner Jergeson moved to file comments with the State Bar supporting the changes in reciprocity, motions practice and pro hac vice admission as a minimum reform of the pro hac vice rules. Commissioner Stovall seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the Commission the meeting was adjourned.

BOB ROWE, Chairman

THOMAS J. SCHNEIDER, Vice Chairman

MATT BRAINARD, Commissioner

GREG JERGESON, Commissioner

JAY STOVALL, Commissioner

ATTEST:

Rhonda J. Simmons
Commission Secretary

(SEAL)